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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS



ANNUAL REPORT

of the health of

WARE RURAL DISTRICT

Report presented by

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1971

AUGUST 1972

103 NEW ROAD
WARE

WARE RURAL DISTRICT

Annual Report on the Health of the District

For the Year 1971

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1971

W A R E R U R A L D I S T R I C T

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Councillors, Ware Rural District.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of Ware Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1971.

In this period, there were nine deaths due to accidents. If you assume that the average expectation of life is 75 years, then this group of people lost 130 years of life between them. Accidents, particularly road traffic accidents, tend to strike the young.

In a recent county survey, there were just over 100 deaths due to road traffic accidents. The average loss of life per person who died in a road traffic accident was about 35 years.

I must emphasise that the place of death is not necessarily local.

There is no substitute for personal vigilance and remembering the times when other people may be driving less effectively than usual. My personal opinion is that bad weather, hunger and anger are often predisposing causes to accidents.

In 1971, the tip at Gentleman's field gave few problems. However, the transport did give problems of mud and smelly water and refuse.

This M.O.H. report contains a list of local authority Medical services. It seems a convenient place to list the local social services and I am grateful to Miss Coplestone for her contribution. I am sure that everyone will realise that since 1971, Social Services have their own administrative structure.

I am grateful to the staff of the Public Health Department for their advice and help in the past year. The Council members have usually had some very relevant questions to ask in Committee. Personally, I think the meetings are of considerable value to us all.

I am grateful to the Chief Officers for their help, and to the Council for their interest in the Public's health.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN EARLE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

John V. Earle, M.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Central Office: Council Offices,
High Street,
Hoddesdon, Herts.

Telephone: Office - Hoddesdon 68331
Private - Hoddesdon 62467

Deputy (Part-Time) Medical Officer of Health

Peter de Bec Turtle, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.,
Haileybury and Imperial Service College.
Telephone: Hoddesdon 62040

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Senior Public Health Inspector (and Surveyor) A.D.G. GOOLD

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J. Board.
Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.
Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector

N. CUTHBERTSON - Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J. Board.
Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and
Other Foods.
Smoke Inspector's Diploma.

Additional Public Health Inspector

S. HORTON - Diploma of the P.H.I.E. Board.

Rural District Council Offices,
103, New Road,
Ware, Herts.

Telephone: Ware 2291/2/3/4

Clerical duties in the Public Health Department were undertaken by
Miss I.E. Ditton and Mrs. B. Rutherford.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

During the Session 1971/72, Public Health matters were dealt with
by the Council under the Chairmanship of Councillor Mr. A.T. Johnson.

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS 1971

Table 1

(Figures for 1970 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Ware Rural District

14,450 (13100)

Natural increase or decrease + 26

Migration in or out + 1324

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres 29060

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books

4011 (4002)

Number of Houses per acre	0.14
---------------------------	------


Number of Persons per acre	0.50
----------------------------	------

Number of Persons per house	3.61
-----------------------------	------

Rateable Value of District * £637,761

Estimated Sum represented by a (new) penny Rate £6074

* As at 1st April, 1972.



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VITAL STATISTICS 1971

		LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA			ENGLAND AND WALES (TOTAL)
		MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	
Estimated mid-year home population		-	-	14,450	48,815,000
Live Births	Total	100	74	174	783,165
	Legitimate	97	70	167	717,491
	Illegitimate	3	4	7	65,674
Stillbirths	Total	2	-	2	9,898
	Legitimate	2	-	2	8,826
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,072
Total live and still births	Total	102	74	176	793,063
	Legitimate	99	70	169	726,317
	Illegitimate	3	4	7	66,746
Deaths of infants					
under 1 year of age	Total	1	1	2	13,726
	Legitimate	1	1	2	12,140
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,586
.....	
under 4 weeks of age	Total	1	1	2	9,113
	Legitimate	1	1	2	8,121
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	992
.....	
under 1 week of age	Total	-	-	-	7,750
	Legitimate	-	-	-	6,903
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	847
Deaths - all ages		82	66	148	567,345
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)			Nil		

VITAL STATISTICS 1971

	WARE R.D.	HERTFORD COUNTY	ENGLAND AND WALES
	-	-	-
Live birth rates, etc.			
Livebirths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	12.0	15.1	16.0
Area comparability factor	1.18	0.94	1.00
Local adjusted rate	14.2	14.2	16.0
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.89	.89	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	4	-	8
Stillbirth rate			
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and still births	11	9.9	12
Infant mortality rates			
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	11	15.1	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	12	14.6	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	24.2	24
Neonatal mortality rate			
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	11	10.8	12
Early neonatal mortality rate			
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	-	8.6	10
Perinatal mortality rate			
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	11	18.3	22
Deaths rates, etc. - all ages			
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	10.2	9.0	11.6
Area comparability factor	.96	1.13	1.00
Local adjusted rate	9.8	10.2	11.6
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.84	.88	1.00

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
DISEASES

(Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified
during the year)

Disease	Total all ages	Age Groups in Years					
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65
Measles	31	-	7	22	1	1	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Salmonella	1	-	-	-	-	-	1

Incidence of Diseases during the different months

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Month and number of cases</u>
Measles	January (1) May (1) June (4) July (23) August (1) September (1)
Scarlet Fever	March (1)
Salmonella	September (1)

DISTRIBUTION OF DISEASES AMONGST THE DIFFERENT PARISHES

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>DISEASE</u>
Great Amwell	Measles (2)
Great and Little Munden	Measles (15)
Hunsdon	Nil
Stanstead Abbots and St. Margarets	Measles (8)
Standon	Measles (4)
Thundridge	Measles (2)
Ware Rural	Scarlet Fever (1)
Eastwick and Gilston	Nil
Widford	Salmonella (1)

TUBERCULOSIS

The following is a summary of Tuberculosis Notifications, etc. during 1971.

The year commenced with 50 cases on the register.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Males	28	2
Females	15	5

One new case was notified for the first time

Males	1	-
Females	-	-

One case was transferred in from another area

Males	1	-
Females	-	-

The year ended with 52 cases on the register

Males	30	2
Females	15	5

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1971

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	82	66
1. Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	-	1
2. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	1
3. Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	2
4. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	4
5. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	4
6. Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	-
7. Other Malignant Neoplasms	3	2
8. Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	1	-
9. Diabetes Mellitus	-	1
10. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	2
11. Hypertensive Disease	3	2
12. Ischaemic Heart Disease	23	9
13. Other forms of Heart Disease	7	6
14. Cerebrovascular Disease	5	14
15. Other diseases of Circulatory system	-	4
16. Pneumonia	7	4
17. Bronchitis and Emphysema	8	1
18. Other Diseases of Respiratory system	1	2
19. Other Diseases of Digestive system	1	1
20. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1
21. Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	-
22. Congenital Anomalies	2	1
23. Symptoms and ill defined conditions	1	3
24. Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	-
25. All other Accidents	3	1

GENERAL STATISTICS

The population in the area has increased by 1350, due to a natural increase of 26 and a migration in of 1324.

This sudden increase has shown up in other East Herts figures (previous inward migration is a hundred or so in Ware Rural). It is possible that previous figures that are derived from the Registrar General have been too low.

VITAL STATISTICS

There were 179 live births. Of these, 167 are legitimate. The birth rate has been falling slightly during the past three years. There were no maternal deaths.

CAUSES OF DEATH

There were a total of 148 deaths. Thirty-one of these were due to cancer, of which nine were lung cancer.

Nine deaths were due to accidents, including 5 road traffic accidents.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

31 children suffered from measles. Since 1968, when measles vaccination started, there has been a considerable reduction of measles throughout the country.

There used to be a big peak in numbers every other year. These peaks still occur, but they are much smaller. In the County, during the past three years, about 12,000 less children have had measles than might have been expected. In Ware Rural District, over 200 cases were notified in 1968. Since then, 20 to 30 each year.

Apart from the measles, no serious outbreaks of communicable disease were notified.

TUBERCULOSIS

No significant change. One new case was reported and one was transferred in from another area.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 - 51

I am pleased to say no action was needed in 1971.

MEALS ON WHEELS

This invaluable service has been carried out in the District by the W.R.V.S., except in Hunsdon, where the Countess of Lindsey organises the service.

Details of the number of days operated each week and the average number of persons served are as follows:-

<u>Area Served</u>	<u>Days per Week</u>	<u>Approx. number of persons served</u>
Dane End	2	5
Eastwick and Gilston	2	7
Thundridge and High Cross	3	7
Great Amwell (including Stanstead Abbots)	3	16
Widford	3	12
Standon and Puckeridge	2	7
Hunsdon	2	12

BUILDING

During 1971, no Council houses were completed. 19 were constructed by private enterprise.

REPORTS

During the year, a special report to the Council was submitted on the subject of Mass Miniature Radiography.

S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES FOR WARE RURAL DISTRICT

LABORATORY SERVICE

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In emergency, certain (Medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, are available for Ware Rural District Council. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres

Number of Welfare Centres - 7

Immunisation and Measles Vaccination

All parents are advised to take advantage of this service, which can be obtained from their family doctors or at Infant Welfare Centres.

APPROX. AGE

VACCINE

6 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
8 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus, and whooping cough, POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
15 months	MEASLES VACCINATION
School entry	POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
School entry	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus
13 years	B.C.G. Vaccination against TUBERCULOSIS

Vaccination against smallpox is no longer recommended in infancy. However, it can be carried out if parents request it.

This is NOT a rigid time-table. Many Doctors hold slightly differing views, and prematurity or ill-health in a child may mean the schedule has to be altered to meet individual needs.

As far as the routine immunisation of children is concerned, birth notification of children in the County has been processed by computer and in consequence it has been possible to send out an appointment for every child to attend a Clinic or its own Doctor for immunisations as they have become due. This scheme was introduced in East Herts in January 1968.

It must be borne in mind that a traveller entering certain countries must produce an International Certificate of Vaccination against Smallpox, Yellow Fever and Cholera. International Certificates should be procured from the travel agency when the intending traveller makes his booking.

Vaccination is done by the patient's own Doctor, who must enter on the Certificate particulars of the vaccine employed. The Doctor's signature must then be authenticated at the local - not the County - Health Department, which holds facsimiles of all the signatures of Doctors in the District.

On the other hand, immunisation against Yellow Fever must be carried out at one of the following Centres, after an appointment is first made by telephone:-

<u>Address:</u>	<u>Tel.No:</u>	<u>Time of Attendance:</u>
Yellow Fever Vaccination Service, Hospital for Tropical Diseases, 4, St. Pancras Way, LONDON, N.W.1.	Euston 4411 Ext.137	Monday to Friday mornings
Yellow Fever Vaccination Service, Medical Dept., Unilever House, Blackfriars, LONDON, E.C.4.	Fleet St.7474 Ext.2841	Tuesday and Friday 3.45 p.m.
Yellow Fever Vaccination Service, 53, Great Cumberland Place, LONDON, W.1.	Ambassador 6456	Monday to Friday 9.30 - 10.30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.

Protection against Cholera may be obtained from the traveller's own Doctor and is advisable for persons undertaking journeys in the Middle or Far East. Advice may be obtained from the Embassy or Mission of the country concerned. The Doctor's signature must again be authenticated by the local Health Department.

Smallpox has an incubation period of 14 days. Protection becomes valid 8 days after vaccination and lasts for three years.

Yellow Fever has an incubation period of 6 days. Protection becomes valid 10 days after immunisation and lasts for ten years.

Cholera has an incubation period of 5 days. Protection becomes valid 6 days after immunisation and lasts for six months.

Typhoid Fever is endemic in some countries and may be contracted by travellers in mediterranean areas. I would here reiterate the advice given in previous Annual Reports that anyone proposing to spend holidays in such regions ought, for their own sakes and for the sake of others, to seek protection from T.A.B. immunisation. This should not be left to the last moment, as the interval between the first and second doses should be at least four weeks and preferably six weeks, because of the delay in building up effective immunity.

Home Help Service

The Home Help Service continues to operate as under:

Hertford Borough and Hertford Rural District

Mrs. Clements	Health Centre,
Divisional Home Help Organiser	Bull Plain, Hertford.
Mrs. Allen - Clerk	Tel: Hertford 3232.
	Hours: 8.30 - 1; 2 - 5 p.m.

Hoddesdon Urban District, Ware Urban and Ware Rural District

Mrs. Castle,	Old Health Centre,
Home Help Organiser	High Street, Hoddesdon.
	Tel: Hoddesdon 67080.
	Hours: 8.30 - 1; 2 - 5 p.m.

Cheshunt Urban District

Mrs. Frost,	Social Services Department,
Home Help Organiser	179, Crossbrook Street,
	Waltham Cross, Herts.
	Tel: Waltham Cross 24658
	Hours: 8.30 - 1 Mon.- Fri.
	2 - 4 p.m. Mon, Tues,
	Thurs, Friday.

Bishop's Stortford Urban District, Braughing Rural
District and Sawbridgeworth Urban District

Mrs. Cooper,
Home Help Organiser

Health Centre, Market Square,
Bishop's Stortford.
Tel: Bishop's Stortford 2743
Hours 8.30 - 1; 1.30 - 5 p.m.

In April 1971, the administration of Home Helps passed to the Director of Social Services.

Hospital Services

The area is served by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford, the Herts and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford, the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Welwyn Garden City, and the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow, Essex.

Chronic sick can receive treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware. This hospital was extensively renovated in 1968. The number of beds available is:-

69 for females, of which 47 are for psycho-geriatric patients.

22 for males.

There are also 190 beds provided under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for the accommodation of needy persons.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases can be treated either at St. Ann's Hospital, Tottenham (Tel.No. Stamford Hill 0121) or Highlands Hospital, Winchmore Hill, London, N.21 (formerly South Lodge Hospital, World's End Lane, London, N.21) (Tel. No. 360 8151).

Care and After Care

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. A Medical Loan Depot has been established in the town (address available at Council Offices). A charge may be made for both the above services.

Ambulance Service

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford, Bishop's Stortford and Ware. Except in emergency an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner. In an emergency the standard procedure of dialling 999 should be followed.

Social Services

With the coming into force of the Local Authority Social Services Act on 1st April, 1971, statutory responsibility for providing services and social work help to the physically handicapped, the elderly, the mentally handicapped and the mentally ill, as well as the responsibility for the child care and family case work service, passed to the newly formed Social Services Department.

<u>Divisional Social Services Officer</u>	Westfield, West Street, Hertford.
Miss M. Copleston	Tel: Hertford 7041

Assistant Divisional Social Services Officer

Mr. H.W. Scott	"
----------------	---

Social Workers

Mrs. C. Welch, Occupational Therapist (covering Hoddesdon U.D. & Cheshunt U.D.)	"
Mrs. F. Ledson, Occupational Therapist (covering Ware U. & R.D., Bishop's Stortford U.D., Braughing R.D., Hertford Borough and Hertford R.D.)	"
Miss P. Watson, Hand Craft Teacher	"
Mrs. J.M. Sutterby	"
Mr. D. Evans	"
Miss D. Taylor	"

Hoddesdon Urban District

Senior Social Worker

Miss D. Baulch

Social Services Department,
Westfield, West Street,
Hertford.
Tel: Hertford 7041

Hertford Borough and Hertford Rural District

Senior Social Worker

Miss C.E.P. Vickers

Social Services Department,
1, Queens Road, Hertford.
Tel: Hertford 2294 & 2295

Ware Urban and Ware Rural District

Senior Social Worker

Miss J. Kenyon-Rogers

Social Services Department,
1, Queens Road, Hertford.
Tel: Hertford 2294 & 2295

Social Workers

Miss A. Livingstone	"
Mrs. P. Page	"
Mrs. J. Wheatley - mornings only	"

Bishop's Stortford Urban District, Braughing Rural
District, Sawbridgeworth Urban District

Senior Social Worker

Mrs. A. Stroud

Social Services Department,
The Lodge, Market Square,
Bishop's Stortford.
Tel: Bishop's Stortford
57253

Cheshunt Urban District

Senior Social Worker

Mr. G. Shuttleworth

Social Services Department,
179, Crossbrook Street,
Cheshunt, Herts.
Tel: Waltham Cross 20905

General Practitioner Services

Ware Rural District is adequately served by General Practitioners. Health visitors and/or Nurses are attached to practitioners. These attachments are proving very successful.

Health Visitors and Nurses

Ware Rural District is served by 3 District Nurse/Midwives, 1 District Nurse and 1 Health Visitor.

Midwives must hold Part I and Part II of the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

Amwell View School

This is a special school catering for mentally handicapped children and at present accommodates 83 children under the age of 16, of whom 2 under 5 years old are in the Nursery and 11 between the ages of 3 and 16 years are in a special care unit. The children from Rowneybury Hostel at Sawbridgeworth attend the school, which has a total capacity of 100 pupils.

Other Services

There is no register of voluntary organisations or Social Clubs. Rather than mention some and omit others (we rely on the grapevine), I have not mentioned any by name. I feel that these organisations are invaluable. They function in various ways, according to local needs and capabilities.

S E C T I O N C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA -

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1971

WATER SUPPLY

Two parishes in the southern extremity of the District, Great Amwell and Stanstead St. Margarets, are within the Statutory area of the Metropolitan Water Board and supplied by them with a public supply of water. The source is the Rye Common Pumping Station and there is a reservoir at Hertford Heath. The water is subject to filtration and chlorination. It is hard chalk water. Fluoride, which occurs naturally in the water, averaged .25 p.p.m.

The remainder of the Rural District is supplied by the Lee Valley Water Company. Though the principal supply in the past has been from the pumping station at Standon, this is no longer sufficient to cope with the demand, so a supplementary supply for the parishes of Hunsdon, Eastwick, Gilston and Stanstead Abbots is now obtained from boreholes at Sacombe, Thundridge and Hadham, via Hadham Mill pumping station which supplies Harlow. Fluoride, which occurs naturally in the water, is less than .2 p.p.m.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY

Within the District there are approximately 122 properties being served by a private water supply.

Routine sampling has continued throughout the year, and in most cases the bacteriological quality has been found to be satisfactory.

In instances where the source of the supply has been suspect, occupants have been advised to boil all water before use and wherever possible advice has been given in an attempt to improve the quality of the supply.

Where unsatisfactory samples have been obtained, the most frequent source of trouble was found to be contamination of the storage tanks, e.g. by birds, mice or bats. A thorough cleansing of the tanks with a sterilizing agent, followed by flushing with water, has usually had satisfactory results.

Quality of Water

Bacteriological

In addition to samples submitted by the Public Health Department for analysis, the Lee Valley Water Company send monthly reports of bacteriological sampling to this Council. Every result sent by the Company has been satisfactory.

Quantity of Water

Where main supplies are available, the water pressure throughout the District has been satisfactory and constant.

Distribution of Water Services

Dwelling houses supplied by public water mains in 1971:-

Parish	Number of Houses	Population (approx.)	Main direct to house	Main to stand-pipes
Eastwick	56	199	55	1
Gilston	54	257	54	-
Great Amwell	699	2412	684	-
Great Munden	120	521	106	-
Hunsdon	409	1399	395	2
Little Munden	237	960	237	-
St. Margarets	77	306	77	-
Standon	1125	4021	1107	2
Stanstead Abbots	526	1821	505	1
Thundridge	293	912	263	2
Ware Rural	227	1071	201	3
Widford	188	571	185	1
TOTAL	4011	14450	3869	12

Swimming Pools

There are three swimming pools attached to private schools in the district and samples are taken regularly when the pools are in use to ensure adequate filtration and chlorination.

The samples taken during the year were generally satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE PURIFICATION

Standon and Puckeridge

The villages of Standon, Puckeridge and Colliers End comprise a common drainage area in which the sewers have been laid to a Pumping Station in Paper Mill Lane, Standon, from which the sewage is raised to the Sewage Purification Works south of the village. The Works have been enlarged in 1970. The new Works consist of a receiving tank with recorder, a balancing tank, 2 upward flow sedimentation tanks, 4 rotary percolating filters, followed by humus tanks. Sludge is disposed of on sludge drying beds and in addition a vacuum disc filter machine has been installed to cope with surplus sludge. The effluent is discharged to a watercourse which is a tributary of the River Rib. The Lee Conservancy Board impose Royal Commission standard and limit the maximum daily discharge.

High Cross and Wadesmill

These two villages drain jointly to a Pumping station at Wadesmill from which sewage is raised to discharge into a sewer south of Thundridge village. From here it flows through Ware Urban District to join the trunk sewer of the Middle Lee Drainage Scheme at Rye Meads.

Great Amwell and St. Margarets

Great Amwell parish may be divided for drainage purposes into four areas:

- (1) Hertford Heath, which is drained through an outfall (which is a joint responsibility of the Ware and Hertford Rural District Councils) to the Hertford Borough disposal works at Hertford.
- (2) The Haileybury College area which is drained by means of a main sewer to the sewers of the Hoddesdon Urban District Council and eventually disposed of by them to Rye Meads. Some properties in Hoddesdon Urban District make use of this outfall.
- (3) The southern portion of Great Amwell village, which includes what is known as the Gypsy Lane area and the old Mylne Estate. This is drained on each side of a water shed to ultimately join at the St. Margarets pumping station from whence the sewage is pumped into the Middle Lee Trunk sewer and the sewage disposed of at Rye Meads. Properties in Hoddesdon Urban District are drained to this system in the Stanstead Road and St. Margarets Road areas.
- (4) The northern portion of the village (Lower Road and Church Path) is drained to a pumping station discharging to St. Margarets pumping station and ultimately to Rye Meads.

Stanstead Abbots

The village is drained by gravity directly into the Middle Lee Trunk sewer and sewage is disposed of at Rye Meads. Stanstead Abbots is liable to periodic flooding and sluices are provided in the manhole at the trunk sewer connection to avoid surcharging of the trunk sewer by flood water.

Hunsdon

The village is drained to a Pumping Station near Bonningtons on the site of an abandoned disposal works. From there the sewage is pumped into a gravity main from Halfway Cottages into the head of the sewer at Hunsdon Road, Stanstead Abbots. From there, the sewage flows by gravity through the Marsh Lane relief sewer into the northern outfall trunk sewer to Rye Meads. Provision is made for part of the flow to be diverted through the Roydon Road sewer in Stanstead Abbots for flushing purposes and in the case of storm overflow.

Eastwick

This village is drained to the Stort Valley trunk sewer discharging to Rye Meads sewage disposal scheme.

Gilston

The Pye Corner section of this village is sewered and connected to the Stort Valley trunk sewer which discharges to the Rye Meads Disposal Works.

Dane End

The villages of Dane End, Haultwick and Green End are sewered and sewage is disposed of at the Works at Dane End. The Works consist of a balancing tank, upward flow sedimentation tank, percolating filters and humus tank. Sludge is dried on sludge beds. Although there is a chalk bourne flowing past the site, the effluent is irrigated over a gravel sub-soil on the site.

Widford and Wareside

These two villages drain to a Purification Works at Widford which also takes foul drainage from the parishes of Much and Little Hadham in the Braughing Rural District. Sewage is pumped from Wareside to Widford and again has to be pumped from the intake to the head of the Works. In addition to sedimentation tanks and filters, the Works include a sludge thickening tank and tertiary treatment over sand filters following the humus tank. The effluent is discharged to the River Ash which experiences low flows during the summer. The standard required by the Lee Conservancy Board is 20 parts per million solids and 10 parts B.O.D. The standard so far maintained has been well within this requirement.

Connections

The number of properties connected to the main sewers during the year was 22.

Other Works

In addition to the main drainage schemes above, there are small schemes serving isolated groups of Council houses. There are no major villages without main drainage and the only hamlets without main drainage are isolated. The properties without main drainage have septic tanks or cesspools and are served by the Council's cesspool emptying service.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Cesspools

The Council have continued their policy to discourage the construction of small water-tight cesspools and encourage the construction of septic tanks with either filters or land irrigation.

There are few conventional type cesspools as far as is known, although many old cesspools used as septic tanks are in need of improvement. The making of improvement grants has helped to improve the drainage of many houses and has provided modern type septic tanks. All new houses built where main drainage is not available must have well designed septic tanks. There are 430 septic tanks outside the sewered area.

The Council remove sludge from septic tanks once a year by means of their cesspool emptying vehicle. The work is done to a definite timetable and all occupiers of premises know to within a week when the tank will be de-sludged. Tanks which are too small or otherwise inadequate to deal with drainage of the premises and need to be emptied more frequently are dealt with under contract to the owner or by means of a request to the Council. One emptying per year allowed free of charge by the Council is carried out in rotation according to the timetable.

Any emptying taken out of turn extra to the annual emptying has to be paid for on the scale of charges in force at the time. At the moment the charge is £4 per load of approximately 1,000 gallons, with a minimum charge of £4. Cesspools or septic tanks which are in the vicinity of public sewers and lie within the area shown on the Council's resolution map are charged at £5 minimum and £5 per load and are not emptied free of charge at any time.

Pail Closets

There are now approximately 27 properties where pail closets are in use and from time to time efforts are made to persuade the owners to provide water closets, drainage and other improvements with the aid of grants. This is resulting in a gradual decrease in the number of pail closets.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

A weekly collection of domestic refuse is maintained throughout the district. In August, a Karrier Musketeer compression vehicle was purchased and the side loading vehicle is now used as a standby.

The refuse is disposed of at a central tip near Downfield Farm, Ware. One man is employed on the tip and uses a Weatherill shovel for the purpose of rolling and covering the refuse. There have been no fires on the tip and appropriate action has been taken in order to avoid nuisances arising from infestation by vermin, flies and crickets.

A resolution under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, prescribing the size and capacity of dustbins and approving the British Standard Dustbin has been passed by the Council and there is a Byelaw in force prohibiting the deposit of liquid matter in dustbins.

The Council undertake the collection of bulky articles of household refuse (mattresses, arm chairs, etc.) on request, free of charge, and although this service has been well publicised, there are still people who prefer to carry their rubbish to a quiet spot and dump it, rather than send a postcard or telephone the Council Offices to request removal. It is believed that a considerable proportion of this rubbish is dumped by people from the built up areas of North London, as some authorities do not operate a free collection service for bulky domestic refuse.

Under the Civic Amenities Act, 1967, 9 abandoned cars were dealt with during the year, 5 being removed by the Council and 4 by the owners. When local residents wish to dispose of vehicles which are of no further use, the Council can make the necessary arrangements, and during 1971, 1 such vehicle was disposed of.

PARTICULARS OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS'
VISITS DURING THE YEAR 1971

Housing	719	Total brought forward	1717
Complaints	43	Slaughterhouses	605
Drainage	241	Food premises	108
Water Supply	65	Rodent Control	103
Refuse Collection & Disposal	188	Licensed Premises	39
Abandoned Vehicles	48	Petrol Installations	157
Caravans	210	Sanitary Accommodation	2
Factories	32	Immigrants	5
Infectious Diseases	47	Keeping of Animals	1
Clean Air Act	71	Animal Boarding Establish- ments	22
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises	35	Disinfestation	14
Noise Abatement	16	Offensive deposits	4
Knacker's Yard	2	Pet Animals Act	3
		Miscellaneous	46
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total carried forward	1717	TOTAL	2826
		<hr/>	

HOUSING ACTS 1957 TO 1969

New Housing by private enterprise

New dwellings erected 19

Conversion or adaptations in
terms of family units -

By Local Authority

New dwellings erected -

Conversion or adaptations in
terms of family units -

By Other Authorities

(County Council, Police, etc.) -

Total Properties controlled by the Council

Council Houses 1245

Temporary prefabricated bungalows -

Sundries (including shops) -

Unfit Houses

The Public Health and Housing Acts empower the Council to require the repair, closure or demolition of unfit houses and during the year a number of houses were repaired following informal action.

One house subject to a Closing Order was vacated.

Closing Orders were made in respect of two houses and undertakings were given that a further six houses would not be used for human habitation.

House Improvement

The increased maxima for grants allowed under the Housing Act 1969, together with the publicity campaign on television and in the press, has certainly stimulated interest in improvements, particularly in the discretionary grant, where the maximum grant is £1000. 13 standard and 9 improvement grants were approved during the year. Work was completed on 32 standard and 4 improvement grants.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

The two slaughterhouses, at Colliers End and Stanstead Abbots, continued to operate during the year. A small decrease, from 6010 in 1970 to 5840 in 1971 was recorded. 2 whole carcasses were condemned and it was necessary to reject organs or parts from 154 animals.

	Cattle (excl. Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed during 1971	936	29	7	3926	942
No. inspected during 1971	936	29	7	3926	942
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci -					
Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	2	-
Part carcass or organ condemned	69	8	-	18	56
Tuberculosis only -					
Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcass or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	3
Cysticercosis -					
Part carcass or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Treated by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-

Total Weight of all foods condemned:-

16 cwts. 60 lbs.

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

Food Premises - Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

	Number	No. fitted to comply with Reg.16	No. to which Reg.19 applies	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakehouses	1	1	1	1
Butchers	7	7	7	7
Grocers and General Dealers	33	33	33	33
Fishmongers	1	1	1	1
Cafes	7	7	7	7
Canteens	19	19	19	19
Public Houses	41	41	41	41

Registered Food Premises

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Ice Cream Premises 44

Manufacturers of Sausages and
Preserved Foods 7

Food Hygiene Regulations

Food premises in the area were inspected regularly and advice given, where necessary, to ensure satisfactory standards.

Plans for new food premises or alterations to existing premises submitted for approval under the Building Regulations are examined by the Public Health Inspectors so that the constructional requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations can be met at the design stage.

Caravan Sites (Control of Development) Act, 1960

There are 5 sites licensed for the stationing of caravans in the area.

3 sites have individual caravans and 2 sites, The Duke of Wellington Public House, Barwick, and 24, High Street, Puckeridge, have 20 and 25 caravans respectively.

At Rye House there is a caravan site for winter quarters for members of the Showmen's Guild. This site is exempted from the Licensing conditions of the Act but conditions regarding the standards of hygiene and sanitary arrangements are incorporated into the permission which has to be obtained under the Town and Country Planning Acts.

Several contraventions of the licence conditions were found at the residential site in Puckeridge and as informal action failed to achieve a remedy, legal proceedings were instituted against the licensee. He was found guilty and fined a total of £70 plus costs for offences relating to distance between caravans and inadequate fire points.

Later in the year, discussions took place with the licensee of this site with a view to amending the licence requirements to provide reasonable living conditions for the caravan occupants. New conditions were eventually agreed and the site licence was amended at the beginning of 1972.

Occupied caravans were found on various other sites during the year but their removal was obtained without having to resort to legal action.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

This Act requires that any premises used for boarding dogs or cats should be licensed with the Council and to comply with the conditions laid down in the licence to ensure that suitable accommodation is provided and to prevent spread of disease.

Four establishments were licensed with the Council, three for dogs and one for cats. Regular visits have been made; no action was required.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Routine inspections of premises registered under this Act were carried out during the year. The following tables indicate the position at the end of the year:

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year.	Total Number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year.
Offices	1	17	11
Retail shops	3	25	18
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	2	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	6	5
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	5	50	35

PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	177
Retail shops	94
Wholesale departments, warehouses	3
Catering establishments open to the public	34
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	-
TOTAL	308
Total Males	130
Total Females	178

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control

The Council employ a part-time operator who is engaged on rodent control three mornings per week.

The Town and Country Pest Service at Royston are on contract to the Council to carry out control treatment at the refuse tip and Standon and Dane End Sewage Works. This firm is also employed by many farmers in the area.

The table below sets out the action taken by the Council during the year.

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non- Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	4611	110
2. (a) Total Number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	211	7
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	141	5
(ii) Mice	48	3
3. (a) Total Number of properties inspect- ed for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	11	-
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	1	-
(ii) Mice	-	-

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 - 1936

Petroleum spirit, except in very small quantities, may not be stored without a licence, which includes conditions aimed at preventing danger arising from such storage.

56 installations are licensed in this district and regular inspections are carried out to ensure compliance with the licence conditions.

S E C T I O N D

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health:

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	49	30	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	2	2	-	-
TOTAL	51	32	2	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

<u>Nature of Work</u>	<u>No. of Outworkers</u>
Wearing apparel - Making, etc.	10
Curtains and furniture hangings	-

